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# **Contemporary Political Ideologies**

*Edited by* JOSEPH S. ROUCEK

## *About the Book*

THIS SYMPOSIUM of original studies by 21 leading American specialists is headed by such authorities as Professor Carle C. Zimmerman of Harvard University, Anthony T. Bouscaren of Le Moyne College, Stanley Rothman of Smith College, Heinz Eulau of Stanford University, Chancellor Williams of Harvard University.

It presents penetrating analyses of the main ideological cross currents in the world today, under such headings as Ideological Movements and Social Change, Variations in Marxism and Neo-Marxism, Soviet Russia's Reluctant Satellites, Remnants of Socialism, New Nationalism and Pan-Movements, Colonialism at the Crossroads, Zionism, Latin America, New Democracies (Germany's Reconstruction, Rejuvenated Italy, Japan's Reforms, India's Gandhism), and The American Welfare State.

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## PREFACE

"Thought control" is one of the most important weapons of modern declared and undeclared wars, and much is being said these days—and properly so—concerning the war of ideologies. It is true that the history of mankind is also the history of wars of ideologies, exemplified, for instance, by the Crusades, the bloody struggle between Catholicism and Protestantism in the sixteenth century, and the consequences of the French Revolution. But present-day conflicts differ from any in the past. Our modern era has given birth to a class of intellectuals trained in the use of ideologies for social control purposes and able to carry on the warfare of ideas on a level never matched before. In addition, the amazing advances in mass communications in recent years have challenged innumerable traditions, upset many fixed beliefs, and introduced a unique ideological aspect into the intellectual struggle, so that today there is not a single system of thought which is not influenced by the present conflict of ideologies.

It can be, in fact, safely said that, for the most part, men live within the framework of institutions whose architecture is not of their own choosing, and they are periodically asked, even at the price of their lives, to preserve or destroy these institutions. Aggressive and conflicting ideologies have already set the armies of the world marching in two world wars. These hidden forces also penetrate all aspects of social life and form a spiritual basis for every social struggle. As powerful dynamic forces of contemporary social life, they give seemingly logical meaning to our politics and social efforts.

Yet the problem of ideologies as the supreme influence on purposive thinking in social life has been, until recently, ignored by social scientists in America, although since Kant there has been a growing recognition that the basic aims of philosophical criticism belong not to "science" in the usual sense of that term, but to the area for which there is no other word but "ideology."

A notable eccentricity of our age of specialization is the attempt of one author to be panoramic, for the flood of materials in every field

is so great that even specialists find it difficult to keep abreast of their own specialties. Hence the editor is grateful to the distinguished group of co-authors who have made this significant volume possible. Also, special thanks and appreciation are due Dr. Dagobert D. Runes, Director of Philosophical Library, for conceiving the basic idea of this volume and for assisting the editor to bring it to fruition.

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## *The Framework*